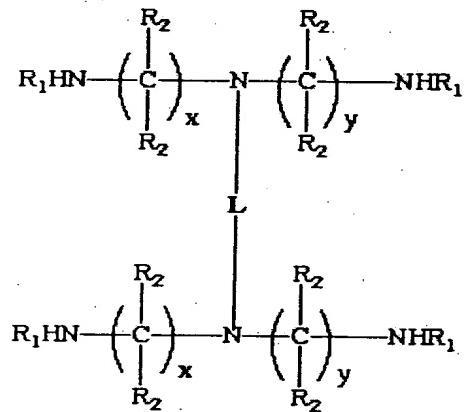


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

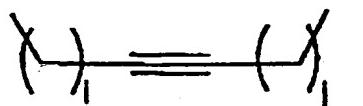
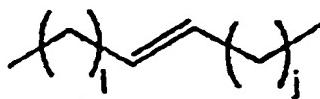
45. (currently amended) A synthetic polyamine dimer formed of two polyamine units, each having at least three amino groups including an intermediate amino group, said units being attached to each other by alkylation through a linker which is a chemical entity that is covalently attached to both said intermediate amino groups said polyamine dimer having the following structure [[(2)] (3):



Wherein wherein R_1 is H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl; R_2 is H or methyl, x is greater than two and less than five ($2 < x < 5$), y is greater than 2 and less than five ($2 < y < 5$) and L is the following chemical entity[[.]]



Wherein $0 < m < 8$, wherein $0 < n < 8$,



Wherein wherein $0 < i < 6$

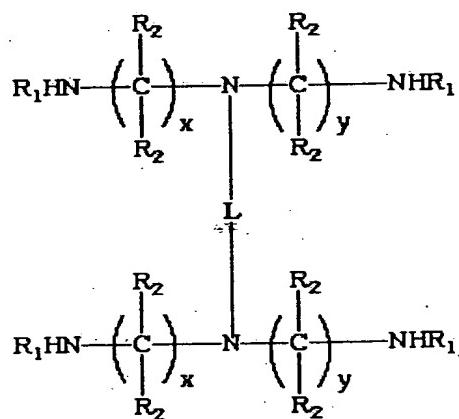
$$0 < j < 6$$

$$1 \leq i + j \leq 7;$$

Ceavently covalently connecting said first polyamine chain to said second polyamine chain.

46. (previously presented) The synthetic polyamine dimer as defined in claim 45, wherein $x = 3$, R_1 is a hydrogen atom R_2 is a methyl (CH_3) group for the carbon atom located next to each $\text{NH}-\text{R}$ group and is a hydrogen atom for all those carbons and $w = 4$.

47. (previously presented) A synthetic polyamine dimer formed of two polyamine units, each having at least three amino groups including an intermediate amino group, said units being attached to each other by alkylation through a linker which is a chemical entity that is covalently attached to both said intermediate amino groups said polyamine dimer having the following structure (3):



wherein R₁ and R₂ are as defined in claim 45, where x and y are greater than 2 and smaller than 5 (2 < x < 5, 2 < y < 5), where the sum of x and y is greater than 5 and smaller than 9 (5 < (x + y) < 9) and where L is the linker as defined in claim 45.

48. (canceled)

49. (previously presented) The synthetic polyamine dimer as defined in claim 47, wherein R₁ is H, x is 3 or 4, y is 3 or 4.

50. (previously presented) The synthetic polyamine dimer as defined in claim 47, wherein the linker L is an aliphatic carbon chain having a structure -(CH₂)_n-, where n is greater than 2 and less than 10.

51. (canceled)